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CIA/ SAVA / WVIN 720603



WEEKLY VIETNAM INDICATORS

Week Ending 3 June 1972

NSA Declassification/Release Instructions on File.

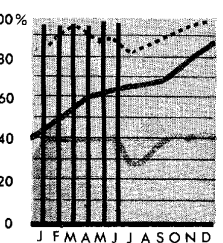
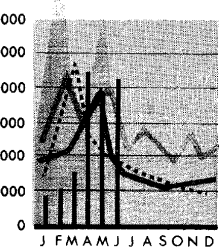
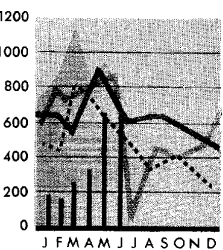
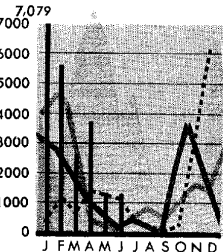
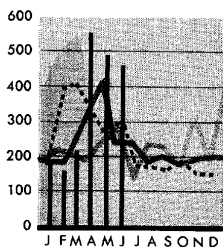
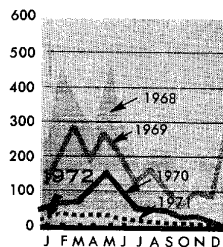
For the President Only

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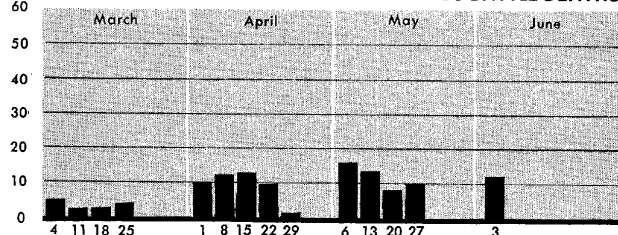
SOUTH VIETNAM WEEKLY INDICATORS

1968-1972
Weekly average for each month

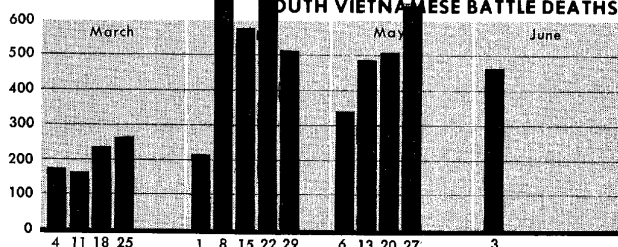
MARCH 1972 — JUNE 1972
Weekly data as reported



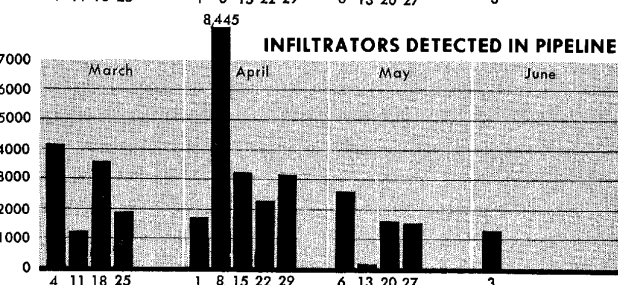
US BATTLE DEATHS increased to 11 from last week's 10.



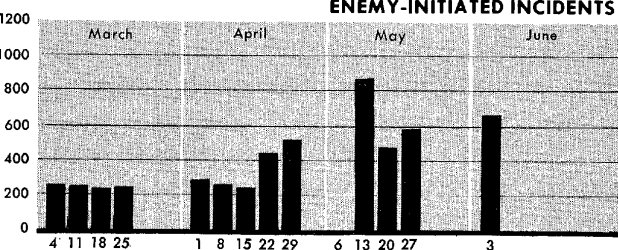
SOUTH VIETNAMESE BATTLE DEATHS decreased to 471 from the 627 of last week. The official total will change as late reports are received and will be lower than the figures released to the press by the GVN.



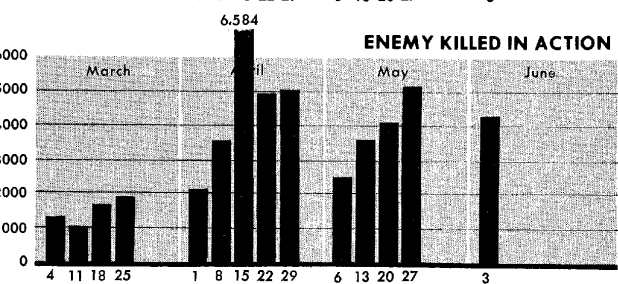
INFILTRATORS DETECTED IN PIPELINE include three regular, one special purpose, and two "gap-fill" groups totaling 1,223 personnel. The estimate of infiltrators destined for Cambodia-South Vietnam since 1 October 1971 is now some 118,500-120,500.



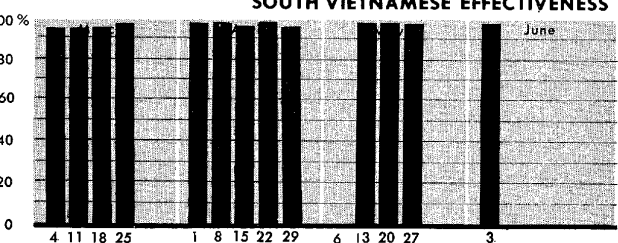
ENEMY-INITIATED INCIDENTS rose to 681 from the 598 of last week.



ENEMY KILLED IN ACTION fell from last week's 5,218 to 4,314.



SOUTH VIETNAMESE EFFECTIVENESS as measured by the percentage of enemy killed by GVN forces remained at 99%, the same level as the previous week.



Statistics for the latest week shown are preliminary

FOR THE PRESIDENT ONLY

Enemy Activity

In South Vietnam, there has been a comparative lull in enemy activity as the North Vietnamese have pulled back from the heavy engagements of the previous week. Further attacks, however, appear imminent in several areas. The enemy is endeavoring to complete his logistics preparations near Hue, and his forces are now deployed in positions from which all-out attacks against that city can be launched. The enemy also seems to be regrouping around Kontum, although his earlier losses in this area may limit the size of new attacks. In Binh Dinh Province on the coast of MR 2, the Communists launched fairly heavy attacks toward the end of the week against Phu My district town, and the situation there is still fluid. (Phu My is the northernmost district of Binh Dinh still under government control.) In MR 3, fighting remains at a low level around An Loc, but the city is still under siege and the relief column remains stalled. The movement of some enemy forces from An Loc into the Parrot's Beak has reduced the pressure on An Loc but increased the threat to Tay Ninh and Hau Nghia Provinces. To the south, some Communist units have moved deeper into the Delta from Cambodia and increased enemy activity seems likely in the near future.

In Laos, government concern over a possible enemy attack on Pakse has been growing ever since the failure of friendly forces to recapture Khong Sedone at the end of May. The Lao military commander in the area has advised civilian and government officials to leave the city, though an enemy attack on Pakse does not yet appear imminent. Prime Minister Souvanna Phouma has placed his key trouble shooter, Sisouk Na Champassak, in charge of the region and some troop reinforcements have been moved in. Poor weather has hampered friendly air operations and reconnaissance in the area, but has also made ground movement more difficult for the enemy. Elsewhere in Laos, friendly forces have begun a new sweep in the central Panhandle, but the advance by government units in the north toward the Plain of Jars is now meeting stiff resistance and has bogged down.

Military activity in Cambodia remained light during the week. Lon Nol has now committed 23 battalions of troops to the effort to clear enemy forces out of the Angkor Wat area, but these battalions appear to have lost momentum in the face of limited but effective enemy resistance. South Vietnamese units operating in southeastern Cambodia continued throughout the week to clash with Communist troops near the enemy-held town of Kompong Trach and along the South Vietnamese-Cambodian border north of Kien Phong and Kien Tuong Provinces. This ARVN operation has inflicted substantial casualties on the enemy and has hindered the enemy's efforts to move his forces across the border into South Vietnam.

Enemy Infiltration and Logistics

The acceptance of 1,223 personnel during the week raises the estimate of North Vietnamese infiltrators destined for Cambodia and South Vietnam since 1 October 1971 to some 118,500 - 120,500. The log jam of some 5,500 infiltrating troops at Vinh in North Vietnam (on which we reported last week) may have been broken. An intercepted message reveals that between 24 May and 4 June, 600 men per night were scheduled to move southward -- an unprecedentedly high rate of departures from North Vietnam during the southwest monsoon.

Heavy rains have forced a reduction in Communist logistic activity in the Lao Panhandle, but the routes through the DMZ continue to carry heavy traffic. By the end of May, sensor-detected vehicle activity in Laos had decreased to half the level in mid-May. Nevertheless, the North Vietnamese are making strenuous efforts to counteract the effects of the weather by repairing all rain-damaged roads as quickly as possible. In northern Cambodia, where routes have been largely unaffected by the rains to date, heavy logistics activity continues.

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